

We claim:

1. An apparatus for print preview which presents printout before printing by the digital printer, comprising

a display portion;

5 a display data storage portion for storing display data representing content to be displayed on the display portion;

a print data storage portion for storing print data to be printed by the digital printer; and

10 a display control portion for transferring and storing print data corresponding to the printout to be displayed as the print preview from the print data storage portion to the display data storage portion, and thereby presenting the printout on the display portion;

15 wherein the display control portion stores print data corresponding to a plurality of sheets of printout to the display data storage portion while offsetting the storage address for each sheet of print data; and

20 the display portion presents printout for the plurality of sheets in parallel offset positions page by page based on data stored in the display data storage portion by the display control portion.

2. An apparatus as described in claim 1, wherein the display control portion prevents transferring to the display data storage portion the part of print data representing the plurality of sheets of printout that is print data corresponding to an area located behind another sheet as a result of stacking the plurality of sheets.

30 3. An apparatus as described in claim 1, further comprising a first input operation portion for receiving input specifying one or multiple sheets to be presented in an offset display on the display portion;

35 a second input operation portion for receiving input specifying an offset distance for the sheets to be presented in the offset display; and

a third input operation portion for receiving input specifying an offset direction for the sheets to be presented in the offset display;

wherein the display control portion stores print data corresponding to the printout of the one or multiple sheets in the display data storage portion while shifting the data storage address of each sheet based on the offset distance and offset direction set according to the input received by the first input operation portion, second input operation portion, and third input operation portion; and

the display portion displays the printout of the one or multiple sheets in a stacked arrangement with each sheet shifted the offset distance in the offset direction according to the input received by the first input operation portion, second input operation portion, and third input operation portion.

4. An apparatus as described in claim 1, further comprising a fourth input operation portion for receiving input specifying a sheet to be presented in the foreground on the display portion;

wherein, when input specifying the sheet to be presented in the foreground is received,

the display control portion overwrites print data corresponding to the printout of the specified sheet in the display data storage; and

the display portion presents the specified sheet in the foreground.

5. A printout display method of an apparatus for print preview and having a display portion, a display data storage portion for storing display data representing content to be displayed on the display portion, and a print data storage portion for storing print data, the printout display method comprising:

a storage address calculating step of calculating an offset storage address in the display data storage portion for each sheet of print data for a plurality of sheets where the print data is correspond to the printout to be displayed as the print preview;

a data transfer step of transferring and storing data stored in the print data storage portion to the display data storage portion based on the storage addresses calculated in the storage address calculating step; and

a display step of presenting printout for the plurality of sheets in parallel offset positions on the display portion based

on the data stored in the display data storage portion in the data transfer step.

6. A printout display method as described in claim 5, wherein the data transfer step prevents transferring to the display data storage portion the part of print data representing the plurality of sheets of printout that is print data corresponding to an area located behind another sheet as a result of stacking the plurality of sheets.

7. A printout display method as described in claim 5, further comprising

a first input receiving step of receiving input specifying one or multiple sheets to be presented in an offset display in the display step;

a second input receiving step of receiving input specifying an offset distance for the sheets to be presented in the offset display; and

a third input receiving step of receiving input specifying an offset direction for the sheets to be presented in the offset display;

wherein, in the data transfer step, the print data corresponding to the printout of the one or multiple sheets is stored in the display data storage portion while the data storage address of each sheet is shifted based on the offset distance and offset direction set according to the input received in the first input receiving step, second input receiving step, and third input receiving step; and

in the display step, the printout of the one or multiple sheets is displayed in a stacked arrangement with each sheet shifted the offset distance in the offset direction according to the input received in the first input receiving step, second input receiving step, and third input receiving step.

8. A printout display method as described in claim 5, further comprising

a step of receiving input specifying a sheet to be presented in the foreground in the display step;

wherein, when input specifying the sheet to be presented in the foreground is received,

print data corresponding to the printout of the specified sheet is overwritten in the data transfer step; and

the specified sheet is presented in the foreground in the display step.

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9. A program for displaying printout in an apparatus for print preview and having a display portion, a display data storage portion for storing display data representing content to be displayed on the display portion, and a print data storage portion for storing print data, the printout display program, when executed by a computer, causing the computer to perform:

10 a storage address calculating step of calculating an offset storage address in the display data storage portion for each sheet of print data for a plurality of sheets where the print data is correspond to the printout to be displayed as the print preview;

15 a data transfer step of transferring and storing data stored in the print data storage portion to the display data storage portion based on the storage addresses calculated in the storage address calculating step; and

20 a display step of presenting printout for the plurality of sheets in parallel offset positions on the display portion based on the data stored in the display data storage portion in the data transfer step.

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10. A program as described in claim 9, wherein the data transfer step prevents transferring to the display data storage portion the part of print data representing the plurality of sheets of printout that is print data corresponding to an area located behind another sheet as a result of stacking the plurality of sheets.

11. A program as described in claim 9, when executed by a computer, causing the computer to further perform:

35 a first input receiving step of receiving input specifying one or multiple sheets to be presented in the offset display in the display step;

a second input receiving step of receiving input specifying an offset distance for the sheets to be presented in the offset display; and

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a third input receiving step of receiving input specifying an offset direction for the sheets to be presented in the offset display;

wherein, in the data transfer step, the print data  
5 corresponding to the printout of the one or multiple sheets is stored in the display data storage portion while the data storage address of each sheet is shifted based on the offset distance and offset direction set according to the input received in the first input receiving step, second input receiving step, and third  
10 input receiving step; and

in the display step, the printout of the one or multiple sheets is displayed in a stacked arrangement with each sheet shifted the offset distance in the offset direction according to the input received in the first input receiving step, second  
15 input receiving step, and third input receiving step.

12. A program as described in claim 9, when executed by a computer, causing the computer to further perform:

a step of receiving input specifying a sheet to be presented  
20 in the foreground in the display step;

wherein, when input specifying the sheet to be presented in the foreground is received,

print data corresponding to the printout of the specified sheet is overwritten in the data transfer step; and

25 the specified sheet is presented in the foreground in the display step.